

Kingston Saves "Lohengrin" by Fine Singing

Wagner's Opera Not the Best Thing the Aborns Have Done in Their Presentation of Opera in English at the Century.

By Sylvester Rawling.

MORGAN KINGSTON in the title part of "Lohengrin" at the Century Opera House last night, by his beautiful singing of the narrative in the last act, raised the performance above the level of mediocrity. Before that there had been much to deplore in the first production by the Aborns of the Wagner opera in English. Lack of rehearsal would seem to be the principal cause. In the first act only the skill of Mr. Stenroos, the conductor, in putting the chorus together averted catastrophe. In the second act, at the assembly of the nobles before the wedding, the men sang flat enough to make one wince.

Then, at the last, came Mr. Kingston's opportunity, and the performance was saved. Not since the days of Jean de Reszke has the story of the mission of the Knight of the Grail been sung so well, and this is written with grateful memories of Herman Jadowick, Karl Jarn, and Leo Slesak in the part at the Metropolitan Opera House. Hark off to you, Mr. Kingston! Your voice, your phrasing, your diction were admirable. No need of a libretto to follow the text.

And here in sorrow it must be recorded that throughout the opera few of the English words, as sung by the principal singers, or by the chorus, could be understood. It is discreditable to them all. They can enunciate Italian, as has been proved by their past performances. Doubtless they are capable of singing in German, or in French, well enough to make themselves intelligible. But of English, the glorious heritage of Shakespeare, and of Tennyson, and of Longfellow, to which they were born, when it comes to singing it, they seem to know little or nothing. If opera in English, of which the Messrs. Milton and Sargent Aborn are the present day protagonists, is to be established, they must start a school at once to instruct their singers in what seems to be a forgotten art.

Lois Ewell was Miss. She sang well, but she did not quite grasp the significance of the character. Ewa was a weak, vacillating creature, utterly unworthy of Lohengrin's sacrifice and devotion, but she was a princess, and,

from her own point of view at least, a serious person. Miss Ewell's impersonation of her inclined too much to the merely frivolous. Jayne Herbert was Ottir. If she missed something of the sinister in her exposition of the character, she was interesting. Morton Adkins was Telramund, Alfred Kaufman was the King and William Schuster was the Herald. Each gave a creditable performance of his part.

While the house was well filled—crowded in the upper stories—there were vacant seats downstairs. This leads to the reflection that, perhaps, the Germans, unlike the Italians and the French, who have shown their catholicity by their support of opera in English during the last three weeks, do not care for opera not sung in their own tongue. If this be true, all the more significant is the effort of the Aborns to give to an English speaking people opera in the vernacular.

Another thing that cannot be emphasized too strongly is the quality of the audience that the Aborns are attracting. Nowhere outside of Germany—and we may admit that the Germans are the most advanced musical people of our time—is there shown such absolutely correct behavior. Nobody whistles while the curtain is up. Nobody goes out until the curtain drops. Practically everybody stays until the end of the performance. The applause, while generous, is never overdone and always well timed. Only once last night was there a burst of applause that was quickly suppressed by hissing. And yet, in return to our nuptials, the fine singing and declamation of Mr. Kingston was some excuse for it.

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PUSHED OFF PLATFORM AS SUBWAY TRAIN RUSHES IN

As a Brooklyn train was stopping in the downtown Fourth street subway station at 5:30 o'clock last night a young woman was pushed off the platform edge by the throng and fell between platform and train.

She escaped the wheels, but was pinned in the space between tracks and platform. Patrolman Schwab got her out and summoned Dr. Auringer of Bellevue Hospital.

The young woman was laid out on a station bench. She gasped that she was Miss Frances Judson, twenty, of No. 473 Decatur street, Brooklyn. Finding her suffering from only a few slight bruises and cuts, Dr. Auringer let her go home. The train was delayed only a few minutes.

AVIATORS COMPLETE FLIGHT FROM ALBANY

Back with Havens, who has entered

his hydro-aeroplane in the race to start from Oakwood Heights, S. I., next Monday to celebrate the late Wilbur Wright's first successful attempt with a heavier-than-air machine, made a successful landing at Midland Beach yesterday afternoon. With Havens was J. R. Verplanck as passenger. Havens started his aerial trip down the Hudson from Albany to Oakwood Heights Monday afternoon, but had to give it up after covering eight miles because the quality of gasoline available was not suitable for his motor. The trip was completed yesterday without mishap.

NO DRESS FOR MURDER CASE.

Judge Taboas Top Hats at Trial of Admiral Eaton's Widow

PLYMOUTH, Mass., Oct. 8.—When the trial of Mrs. Jennie May Eaton for the murder of her husband, Rear-Admiral Joseph Eaton, is called in the Superior Court one week from today a departure will be made from the usual conduct of murder cases. The silk hats will be missing. Chief Justice John A. Alden, who will preside, believes that murder trials should be brought down to the level of other cases. Hence it is announced that the lawyers for the prosecution and for

the defense, who if custom were followed would dress formally, will discard silk hats and frock coats.

The Chief Justice also is opposed to placing a jury under strict surveillance and a departure may be made in this regard.

Accounting of Hoyt Estate. Accounting of the estate of Louis T. Hoyt, who died in Had Nahaim, Germany, in 1901, was filed with the Surrogate yesterday, and shows a total of \$7,041,491 handled by the executor since the last accounting in 1903. After paying legacies and incomes on trust funds, there remains in trust \$5,591,515.

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A Special Lot of 500 at \$3.49

To signify the Fall opening of the Department, in its new location, Main Floor, 34th Street, we offer a collection of **NEW Silk and Leather HAND BAGS** at **SAVINGS OF One-third**. Illustrated are a few of the twelve smart styles and shapes represented in the assortment, all the most extreme novelties, copied from the latest imported models.

Moire Silk Hand Bags, \$3.49
Are equal to those elsewhere at \$7.50 each. Here are the new Pouch Bags, cleverly fashioned of heavy black silk moire, including:
"The Burlington," "The Coquette," "The Tango" and soft shirred and pleated effects, some tasseled, all finely mounted with nickel, gold or silver-plated frames, and many with the convenient "Pannier" handle.

"The Coquette" has a semi-circular mirror in its top, as illustrated; the "Tango" Bags are quaint shapes; the "Burlington" is a smart London model, extremely flat, the "Saddle Bag" styles are unusually modish and capacious. Lined with moire silk and satin in new shades; these have mirrors and separate purses on inside frames.

Fine Leather Hand Bags, \$3.49
In the new "Pouch" effects, pleated and Pannier shapes, in soft, flexible pin seal, barley grain seal, morocco, matte seal, cross grain, long grain, walrus and seal grain leathers of fine quality.
Also "Over Night" Bags, fitted with 2, 3, 5 and 7 piece fittings. The linings are of silk or leather of excellent quality and the frames self covered, or in German silver, gun metal, nickel, silver or gold plated. Some with lock and key, others with side or snap locks, strap and pannier handles.

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Crepe de Chine Afternoon Gowns, \$24.74
Kimono blouse model with collar and vest of fine lace and frills of Brussels net finishing the neck and 3/4 sleeves. A broad buckle-finished girdle joins the bodice and deep pleated tunic. Deep corded fold and tiny buttons finish the skirt at foot.

Crepe de Chine Afternoon Gowns, \$39.75
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